

Appln. No. 09/671,687
Amd. dated September 9, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 5, 2004

REMARKS

The Office Action has been carefully reviewed. No claim is allowed. Claims 2-4, 20-24, and 38-48 presently appear in this application and define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are hereby respectfully solicited.

Claims 2-4, 20-24, and 38-43 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, because the examiner states that the specification, while being enabling for an isolated protein capable of binding the TRAF2 and having an amino acid sequence having at least 90% homology to SEQ ID NO:3, does not reasonably provide enablement for fragments of variants having as little as 90% homology to SEQ ID NO:3. This rejection is obviated by the amendment to claim 2 deleting the recitation of "or of said variant (B)" from subsection (C).

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, and define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Favorable consideration and early allowance are earnestly urged.

Respectfully submitted,

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